



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7 : G01N 15/14, 35/00, 21/64		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/20838
			(43) International Publication Date: 13 April 2000 (13.04.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/DK99/00515 (22) International Filing Date: 30 September 1999 (30.09.99) (30) Priority Data: PA 1998 01243 1 October 1998 (01.10.98) DK (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): 2C A/S [DK/DK]; Rørmosen 306, DK-2990 Nivå (DK). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): CASPERSEN, Christian [DK/DK]; Rørmosen 306, DK-2990 Nivå (DK). (74) Agent: PLOUGMANN, VINGTOFT & PARTNERS; Sankt Annæ Plads 11, P.O. Box 3007, DK-1021 Copenhagen K (DK).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CN, CR, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), DM, EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.	

(54) Title: AN APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING THE POSITION OF AN OBJECT

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus which can provide rapid scanning of large specimens (14) to detect and determine positions of objects having specific characteristics. The apparatus may, further, be adapted to store information associated with the positions of the detected objects and to retrieve this position information so that an operator may locate a particular type of target object or objects in the specimen for detailed inspection and analysis subsequent to the scanning. The position information may be stored in a volatile or non-volatile memory device provided therefore in a preferred embodiment of the invention. The specimen may be provided on a solid support, such as a circular disc (13) which may be rotatably mounted about an axis (17) of a frame of the apparatus. The objects can be cells or microorganisms of a particular rare type, i.e. they may be present in a very low density in the specimen.

